

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application in light of the above amendments and following comments is courteously solicited.

Initially, the undersigned would like to thank Examiner Farah for the courtesies extended during a telephone interview held with the undersigned on June 16, 2009. During the above-noted telephone interview the outstanding official action was discussed in detail and the undersigned was greatly aided in formulating an appropriate response thereto.

Applicant submits herewith new independent claim 36 as well as amended dependent claims 20-22, 27, and 28. Claims 18-19, 23-24, 26 and 29-35 have been canceled.

New independent claim 36 has been drafted to set forth with specificity the components of the dental tool of the present invention. Claim 36 now positively recites a base unit, a rear unit, and a plurality of separate hand pieces selectively fittable to the rear unit. The base unit is defined as including a diode laser module, an erbium:YAG laser module, a coolant source and control circuitry. The rear unit is defined as being connected to the base unit via a common line. The rear unit is defined as including an optical element, a hollow wave guide, a transfer piece, and switch elements for function selection. The common line is defined as having first, second, third and fourth connection lines for connecting the diode laser, the erbium laser, the coolant source, and the control circuitry of the base unit to the optical element, hollow waveguide, transfer piece, and switch elements for function selection, respectively. Independent claim 36 further defines that the plurality of separate handpieces which are selectively fittable to the rear unit include one or more of a light guide for the diode laser, a light guide for the erbium laser, and a

coolant line for connection to the coolant source. Finally, claim 36 sets forth that a single handpiece is selected from the plurality of separate handpieces and secured to the rear unit depending on the treatment to be performed. It is respectfully submitted that none of the prior art references cited or applied by the Examiner teach, disclose, suggest or render obvious the details of the medical tool as now set forth in independent claim 36.

In addition to the foregoing, it is submitted that the dependent claims contain patentable merit in their own right. The dependent claims set forth with specificity the details of the diode laser, the erbium laser, the hollow waveguide, and the optical element. These detailed features are not shown or disclosed in the prior art references in the manner claimed with respect to the medical tool of independent claim 36.

In light of the foregoing, it is submitted that claim 36 and all of the claims which depend therefrom patentably define over the art of record and the early issuance of a formal notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

An earnest and thorough attempt has been made by the undersigned to resolve the outstanding issues in this case and place same in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or feels that a telephone or personal interview would be helpful in resolving any outstanding issues which remain in this application after consideration of this amendment, the Examiner is courteously invited to telephone the undersigned and the same would be gratefully appreciated.

If any fees are required in connection with this case, it is respectfully requested that they be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

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